



CDSS

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
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COMMUNITY CCARE LLICENSING DDIVISION



UPDATE SPRING 2010

To the Child Care Community

Spring Is In The Air!

We are into the eighteenth year of our efforts to keep the child care community informed about licensing programs and services. The Updates continue to be an important method for sharing information. We appreciate your support in sharing these Updates with those in your organization and others interested in child care issues.

LICENSING MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

NEW APPOINTMENTS:

Department of
SOCIAL SERVICES

CDSS

Anita Hise has been promoted to the position of Licensing Program Manager for the *Inland Empire Regional Office*.

Anita was a Licensing Program Analyst for fourteen years with the Child Care Program in both the Orange and Inland Empire Child Care Regional Offices. Over the years, she has volunteered and participated on a number of key licensing projects and has become a key player in the child care community, as well as with her peers. She has focused on the challenges and solutions inherent with the Child Care Licensing Division mission.

Her wealth of work experience combined with her personal experiences, will serve well in her new position.



Donnisha Robinson has been appointed to the position of Family Child Care Home Licensing Supervisor for *Sacramento County*. She comes to the child care field with vast work experience in the field of social services in Sacramento County. Donnisha has been a Supervisor for In Home Supportive Services and Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, Donnisha has over four years experience as a Family Reunification Social Worker and one year of experience reassessing homes of relative placement for Child Protective Services.

Please join the Child Care Program in welcoming, Anita and Donnisha to their new appointments.

NEW OFFICE LOCATION



As of April 2010, the **CENTRAL COAST CHILD CARE REGIONAL OFFICE** has relocated to:

6500 Hollister Avenue, Suite 200, Goleta, CA 93117
Main Line: (805) 562-0400, Fax: (805) 685-1820

Regional Office Manager: Colleen Young

LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

BODIES OF WATER:



It is the responsibility of the licensee to ensure the inaccessibility of pools, including swimming pools (in-ground and above ground), fixed-in place wading pools, hot tubs, spas, fish ponds or similar bodies of water, through a pool cover or by surrounding the pool with a fence.

NOTE: Child Care Center fencing requirements are not required for inflatable or portable wading pools with sides low enough for children to step out unassisted, however, these pools must be emptied after each use.

BODIES OF WATER (IN-GROUND) REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ The fence is to be at least five feet high and constructed so that the fence does not obscure the pool from view.
- ✓ The bottom sides of the fence are to comply with Division I, Appendix Chapter 4 of the 1994 Uniform Building Code.
- ✓ Fences and gates are to swing away from the pool, self close, and have a self-latching device located no more than six inches from the top of the gate.
- ✓ Pool covers are to be strong enough to completely support the weight of an adult and be placed on the pool and locked while the pool is not in use.

BODIES OF WATER (ABOVE-GROUND) REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ Must be made inaccessible when not in use by removing or making the ladder inaccessible, or erecting a barricade to prevent access to decking.
- ✓ If a barricade is used, the barricade shall meet the above requirements for bodies of water in-ground.

An operative pump and filtering system is required for all in-ground pools and all above-ground pools that cannot be emptied after each use.

WATER ACTIVITIES STAFFING REQUIREMENTS:

Child Care Centers are required to have a least one adult, who has a valid water safety certificate on file, present during water activities in or near bodies of water.

- ✓ A ratio of not less than one adult, including teachers, to every six children, or fraction thereof, is to be maintained during water activities in or near any of the bodies of water specified in regulations. Lifeguards or personnel supervising anyone other than center children at the water activity site shall not be included in these ratios.
- ✓ A ratio of one adult to two infants is to be maintained during any water activities in or near any body of water specified in regulations. Lifeguards or personnel supervising

anyone other than center children at the water activity site are not to be included in this ratio.

- ✓ A ratio of one staff member to every four infants is to be maintained during activities in or near any container of water that a child can get into and get out of unassisted. This includes, but is not limited to, wading pools, basins, or water trays. This ratio can include authorized representatives of infants in care and adult volunteers to supplement the staff-infant ratio.

REPORTING REQUIREMENT:

It is important to note that all child care facilities are required to notify the Department of any proposed construction or alteration to the building and grounds. This includes installation of in-ground or above ground swimming pools, spas, fish ponds, decorative water features, fountains or other bodies of water.

To learn more about the licensing requirements for bodies of water, read California Code of Regulations Title 22, Sections 101216.6, 101416.8, 101238(e) for Child Care Centers and Sections 102416.3(a)(3) and 102417(g)(5) for Family Child Care Homes.

TRANSPORTATION (“Z” Permit)

It is the licensee’s responsibility to ensure that only drivers licensed for *the type of vehicle* operated are transporting children. To further ensure that your facility is complying with all applicable state laws and regulations pertinent to transportation, please read the following:

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has authority over intrastate transportation. California intrastate transportation is transportation that begins and ends in California, and does not cross any state line in between. The types of carriers that require CPUC authority are: a passenger stage corporation, a charter-party carrier, and a private carrier.

All child care facilities that provide transportation services for children in care are considered charter-party carriers. Charter party carriers are required to obtain the appropriate certificates and permits to provide intrastate transportation. Child care facilities that provide transportation services are considered “specialized carriers” and must obtain a “Z” permit.

According to the Public Utilities Code Section 5384(a), specialized carriers are those who do not hold themselves out to serve the general public, but only provide service under contract with industrial and business firms, governmental agencies, and private schools, or who only transport agricultural workers to and from farms for compensation, or who only conduct transportation services which are incidental to another business.

A “Z” permit is applicable to vehicles of any seating capacity. Transportation may be from any point to any point within California, and is not transferable. It is important to

note that it is unlawful for any carrier to operate without a valid authority which is punishable by a fine or imprisonment or both.

To learn more about the CPUC authority over intrastate transportation and how it is applicable to your facility, please visit their website at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/puc/>. To learn more about the licensing requirements for transporting children read (California Code of Regulations Title 22, Sections 101225 for Child Care Centers and 102417(h)-(l) for Family Child Care Homes).

GENERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION

SPRING HEALTH TIPS



ALLERGIES are an overreaction of the immune system to substances that generally do not affect other individuals. These substances may cause sneezing, coughing and/or itching. An allergic reaction varies from person to person. Some may merely experience bothersome reactions and other reactions may be life-threatening.

Although allergies generally cannot be prevented, the allergic reaction can be. Here are some simple strategies for a person that is aware of the substance(s) that are causing an allergic reaction:

- ✓ Be in an air-conditioned environment during the peak hay-fever season
- ✓ Avoid foods identified as allergens
- ✓ Eliminate dust mites
- ✓ Eliminate animal dander from the home
- ✓ Take medication to counteract reactions or minimize symptoms or
- ✓ Be immunized with allergy injection therapy

As a licensee, it is important to be aware of all children in care who have allergies. This may be achieved by receiving the appropriate documentation from the child's parent, as required for Child Care Centers, and discussing with parents their child's health history.

To read more about allergies, visit the California Department of Public Health at www.cdph.ca.gov or the Center for Disease Control at www.cdc.gov.



APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS

Gardening is a great activity which helps develop gross and fine motor skills of children in care. Starting a garden can be achieved regardless of the amount of space at your facility. Here are some simple planning steps in starting a garden at your facility:

Step 1 - Form a Garden Committee: Partner with staff, volunteers and parents. Find out who is interested in being involved by announcing a meeting on the topic.

Step 2 – Define the Purpose and Objective of your Garden: All gardens are unique. Identify how your garden will serve as a learning aid for the children in care and how you will achieve your objective.

Step 3 – Layout your Students’ Gardening Activities: Utilize the experience and input of the Garden Committee to assist you in developing activities that will promote a play and learning environment.

Step 4 – Define a Year-Round Garden Plan: Determine if your garden will be a year-round activity for the children in care. A year- round garden plan will account for all seasons.

Step 5 – Choose a Permanent Garden Site and Design your Garden: Select an area that has plenty of sunlight and good drainage. Your garden should also be in close proximity to water, and accessible to children and the Garden Committee. To learn more garden safety tips visit the California Department of Education at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/he/gardensafety.asp?print=yes>.

Step 6 – Build Your Garden According to Plan: Put your plan into action by building your garden with the assistance of the children and the Garden Committee.



Please visit the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, Child Care Integrated Pest Management website to learn about pesticides and safe pesticide use in a child care setting: <http://apps.cdpr.ca.gov/schoolipm/childcare/>.

NUTRITION BENCHMARKS

According to the American Dietetic Association (ADA), all child care programs should achieve the below recommended benchmarks for meeting children’s nutrition and nutrition education needs in a safe, sanitary, and supportive environment that promotes healthy growth and development:

MEAL PLANS

- ✓ Menus should be nutritionally adequate and consistent with the dietary guidelines for Americans.
- ✓ Food should be provided in quantities and meal patterns that balance energy and nutrients with children’s ages, appetites,



- activity levels, special needs and cultural or ethnic differences in food habits.
- ✓ Parents should be involved in the nutrition component of their child care facility.

FOOD PREPARATION

- ✓ Plenty of fresh or frozen fruits and vegetables and whole grain products should be offered to children.
- ✓ The addition of fat, sugar, and sources of sodium should be minimized.
- ✓ Food preparation and services should be consistent with best practices for food safety and sanitation.

PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Furniture and eating utensils should be age appropriate and developmentally suitable to encourage children to accept and enjoy mealtime.
- ✓ Child care personnel should encourage positive experiences with food and eating.

NUTRITION CONSULTATION AND TRAINING

- ✓ Caregivers should receive appropriate training in nutrition and food service.
- ✓ Child Care programs should obtain consultation and technical assistance from a dietetic professional on a regularly scheduled basis.
- ✓ Nutrition education for children and for their parents should be a component of the child care program.
- ✓ Child Care programs must comply with local and state regulations related to wholesomeness of food, food preparation facilities, food safety, and sanitation.

To read more about the *Position of ADA: Benchmarks for Nutrition Programs in Child Care Settings*, visit the Journal of the American Dietetic Association at:

<http://www.adajournal.org/content/positionPapers#2005>.

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the leading cause of death in infants between the ages of one month and one year. About one in five SIDS deaths occur while a baby is under the care of someone other than a parent. Most deaths happen when babies are between two and four months of age. SIDS can not be prevented and the cause(s) is unknown. Researchers know now that the risk for SIDS is reduced if a baby is placed on his/her back to sleep and on a firm surface. Not smoking around a baby and making sure he/she is not overheated when sleeping can further lower the risk of SIDS.

Parents, child care providers and anyone who cares for a baby should always place a baby to sleep on his or her back for naps and at nighttime. It is important to follow this safe sleep recommendation and the other infant care guidelines listed below to reduce the risk of SIDS. This way you will know you are doing all you can to keep a baby healthy and safe.

The Safe Sleep Top Ten

1. Always place a baby on his or her **Back to Sleep**, for naps and at night.
2. Place a baby on a firm sleep surface, such as on a safety-approved crib mattress, covered by a fitted sheet.
3. Keep soft objects, toys, and loose bedding out of a baby's sleep area.
4. Do not allow smoking around a baby.
5. Keep the baby's sleep area close to, but separate from, where you and others sleep.
6. Think about using a clean, dry pacifier when placing an infant down to sleep. Do not force the baby to take it. When a baby breastfeeds, wait until he or she is one month old or until after breastfeeding has been established.
7. Do not let a baby overheat during sleep.
8. Avoid products that claim to reduce the risk of SIDS.
9. Do not use home monitors to reduce the risk of SIDS.
10. Reduce the chance that flat spots will develop on a baby's head by placing a baby on their tummy when he/she is awake and someone is watching.



These safe sleep top ten recommendations are based on the American Academy of Pediatrics Task Force on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Policy Statement (*Pediatrics* 2005;116:1245-1255) and are provided by the California SIDS Program. To learn more about SIDS or the Back to Sleep Campaign, visit the California SIDS Program at: <http://www.californiasids.com>.

The American Academy of Pediatrics Healthy Child Care America has recently developed a new online module, *Reducing the Risk of SIDS in Child Care*. This one-hour, free course is designed to educate everyone who cares for babies, including child care providers, health care professionals, parents, grandparents and relatives. With an easy to follow format, this course is available 24/7 from your home or office computer. The course will teach you how to create a safe sleep environment to reduce the risk of SIDS and other sleep-related deaths. Child care providers will receive a certificate of completion for 1.0 contact hour. To access this free SIDS educational module, go to: www.healthychildcare.org/pdf/SIDSmoduleflyer.pdf.

RECENT RECALLS

Fast and Free: Sign Up to Save Lives!

Each year, too many children are killed or seriously injured by consumer products. Defective cribs, toys, clothing, blinds, and countless other products threaten the health and safety of our children. As child care providers, arming and empowering yourselves with knowledge is the best way to prevent such tragic deaths and injuries. Acquiring the knowledge is free and easy to do. Sign up with the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) for immediate email notices of recalled products and safety

alerts. Simply provide your email address to the CPSC via their on-line subscription form at <https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx>. Then choose what type of recall notices you prefer to receive (for example, all notices or only those involving infant/child products).

Sign up today – you could save a child's life!

Reporting Dangerous Products or Product-Related Injuries

If you wish to report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's Hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270.

Graco Recalls Harmony™ High Chairs Due to Fall Hazard

The CPSC are advising consumers to stop using the Graco Harmony™ High Chair because of loose screws and cracked plastic brackets which cause the chair to become unstable posing a fall hazard to children. To learn whether your Graco Harmony™ High Chair is involved in the recall please visit:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml10/10171.html>.

Infant Deaths Prompt CPSC Warning about Sling Carriers for Babies

The CPSC issued a warning to parents and caregivers to practice caution when using infant slings for babies younger than four months of age. To read about the recommended precautions for infant slings, visit the CPSC at:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml10/10165.html>.

EXTRA! EXTRA! Read all about it!

Are you interested in learning more about the latest trends and developments in the child care profession? You may do so by visiting the following web pages:

- ✓ ***Child Care Health Connections***
<http://www.ucsfchildcarehealth.org/pdfs/newsletters/2010/Mar-Apr10.pdf>
- ✓ ***Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention & The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning March Update: Pyramid Plus, Help with Screening and Assessment, New TACSEI Partner and More!***
<http://us1.campaign-archive.com/?u=62b59a27ecc386767221b8344&id=d8a55fabe0&e=a09bcabb2a>
- ✓ ***Preventing Obesity in the Child Care Setting: Evaluating State Regulations***
http://cfm.mc.duke.edu/modules/cfm_ehs_resrch/index.php?id=6
- ✓ ***Healthy Kids, Healthy Prevention – Update on Funding Opportunities for Child Care.*** <http://healthykidshealthyfuture.com/>

LICENSED CHILD CARE STATISTICS

<i>Facility Type</i>	<i>Total Capacity</i>	<i>Total Licensed Facilities</i>
Family Child Care Home*	396,363	40,982
Infant Center	44,614	1,988
Child Care Center	587,297	10,603
Child Care Center - School Age	142,798	2,624
Child Care Center - Mildly Ill Children	66	7
Total	1,171,138	56,204

***NOTE:** This includes facilities licensed by the state and those counties which license Family Child Care Homes (Del Norte, Inyo, and Sacramento). County licensing statistics are through February, 2010 per most recent report from Research and Development Division. State licensing statistics are through April, 2010.

SUMMARY

If you have questions about items included in this Update, or suggestions for future topics, please contact Gloria Merk, Program Administrator, at (916) 229-4500. You may also visit our internet website at www.cclid.ca.gov to obtain copies of licensing Updates, office locations, provider letters, regulations, forms, the Licensing Evaluator Manual, or to learn more about licensing programs and services.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Jeffrey Hiratsuka

JEFFREY HIRATSUKA
Deputy Director
Community Care Licensing Division